

Polio Shots Required Of All New Students

Subsequent to Jan. 15, all new students enrolling in private or public schools in Los Angeles County will be required to comply with the provisions of a new state law regarding immunization against poliomyelitis, Dr. K. H. Sutherland, Los Angeles County health officer, announced.

State Assembly Bill 1940, requires that any individual of any age furnish school authorities written evidence that he has been immunized against poliomyelitis prior to being admitted as a student to any private or public elementary or secondary school, including

kindergarten, junior colleges and adult education classes.

THE NEW LAW does not affect pupils who entered school during the first semester of the 1961-62 school year, but is applicable to these pupils when they apply for admission to school in September of 1962.

Essentially the following provisions apply. At least one polio injection is necessary for entry to school with the completion of the total of three required in one year. Completion of series of three before entry is desirable. At least two weeks between each

injection is required. For persons immunized before Jan. 1, 1962, a written statement giving the approximate dates of inoculations from the parent or guardian is all that is necessary for the school authorities.

For those immunized after Jan. 1, 1962, a written record must be presented stating the birthdate, date of each inoculation, kind of vaccine and name of immunizing agency or physician. There are provisions for a written statement to be filed in the event that a person does not believe in immunization.

THIS LAW affects only new admissions to a school after Jan. 15, 1962, and is of immediate concern to those being admitted at the beginning of the coming spring semester. However, the law is interpreted as applying to any new admission for any reason to a different school than the one attended during the fall 1961 semester — examples: entry to a school for the first time; promotions from elementary to junior high; junior high to high school; high school to junior college; transfer due to move; re-districting, etc.

It is urged that any student

coming under these classifications be immunized now and prior to spring enrollment. The same requirement of immunization will affect all students prior to entry to school in September 1962. It is therefore also urged that all students not now immunized receive polio immunization prior to opening of school in fall.

IT IS especially noted that oral polio vaccination is not at this time acceptable for this school program. It is because oral vaccine is now available for only two types of polio virus, not all three. Currently only Salk vaccine is acceptable. Poliomyelitis vaccination can be secured from private

physicians, the Los Angeles County Medical Assn. and the National Foundation Dollar Clinics (call the Los Angeles County Medical Assn. and the National Foundation for clinic schedules).

The Los Angeles County Health Department will also offer polio vaccinations in its health centers to all Los Angeles County pupils seeking admission to schools including those who reside in the cities of Los Angeles, Long Beach, Pasadena, and Vernon. Since the law provides for a charge to be collected from the person immunized to cover the cost, the fee will be \$1 per injection.

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NO CHARGE will be made of pupils who are clients of the County Department of Charities, or who present written notice from school personnel that this free service is indicated. Contract arrangements are under consideration by the Health Departments and fiscal officers of Los Angeles City, Long Beach, Pasadena, and Vernon, whereby the health officers of these four cities will act as agents of the County Health Officer in offering polio vaccination on the same basis to the school pupils of any age residing in their respective jurisdictions.

Slight Drop In TB Cases

A total of 2,330 new cases of tuberculosis have been reported this year in Los Angeles County, Leland A. Phillips, president of the Christmas Seal Assn. said.

The 75 new cases reported to city and county health officials for the week ending Dec. 16 pushed the case total past the 2,300 mark.

Phillips said this current figure represents a reduction of only 36 in the number of new cases for the comparable period last year.



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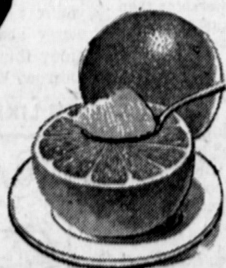
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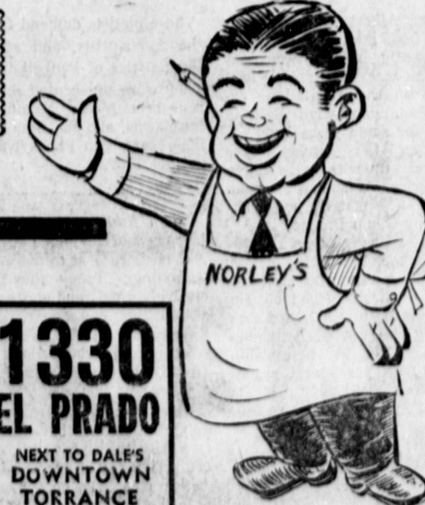
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